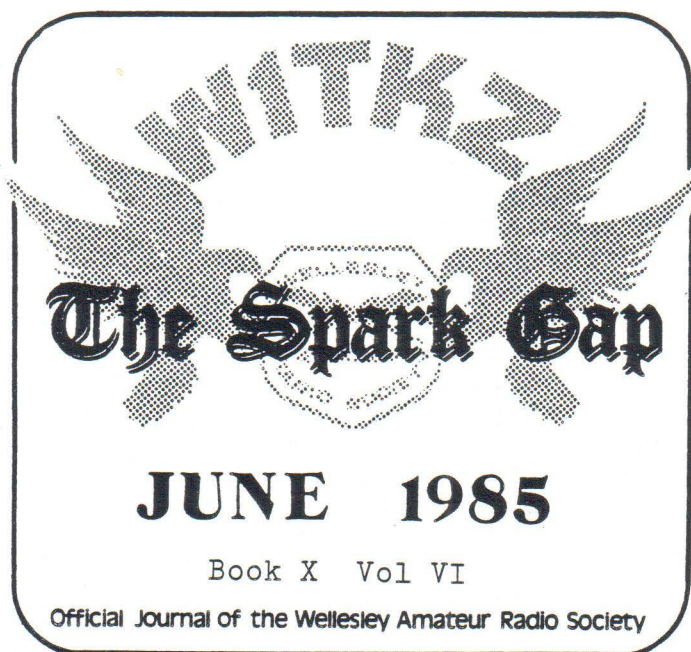




VHF CONTEST

This is the last newsletter before summer, but June is still a very busy month for club activities. First, there is the ARRL June VHF QSO party which comes this year the weekend of June 8-9. As you must all know by now, these contests are among our biggest efforts of the year and we have the results to prove it. Our last contest in September resulted in a 4th place nationwide finish.

We will be operating on all bands from 6 meters through 2304 MHz, plus 10 GHz and perhaps on laser as well. Our location on top of Mt. Equinox in Vermont provides as good a VHF location as anyone could ask for. Because of all the bands we operate, there is room for plenty of people to operate.

In the past, we could always have used more operators, so if you think trying the VHF bands would be interesting, please plan on coming along. There will be people going up at various times on Friday and Saturday and coming back on Sunday and Monday, so any schedule can be met if you need a

ride. If you are interested in the contest, please contact Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, at 653-0641.

While we are up there, you can also witness a hill climb/road race for vintage sports cars which takes place on the five mile access road to the mountain top. These cars hit top speeds of 100 m.p.h. while averaging 50-60 m.p.h. on the long, winding road. We help provide safety communications for this event as well. If you are interested in being a race communicator, contact Dick Paret, WA1ZLQ, at 837-6423.

FIELD DAY!

June is also the month for Field Day, one of the longest running of all Amateur Radio activities. Field Day is our chance once a year to prove to ourselves and others that we really are capable of the emergency communications that we advertise. We will be operating on the HF bands and probably 2 meters. In addition, there are bonus points for Packet Radio and satellite contacts and we will be operating both of these modes.

The only question at the moment is location. We planned on operating at the Wellesley town hall again this year, and in fact have been given permission. The only problem is that the building is being renovated and we cannot have access to rest room facilities as we have in the past. Thus we are looking into other options. Though no permission has been granted, the place that looks the best is right beside our club HQ at the Red Cross.

Please plan on coming to Field Day. For the latest information on where we will be, contact any club officer, attend one of the June meetings, or get on the Sunday night nets at 7:00 p.m. on 147.63/03.

Have a good summer! Summer meetings will be July 18 and August 15.

MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

June 6, 1985, at 7:30 p.m.

June 20, 1985, at 7:30 p.m.

211 Washington St., Wellesley

"New Tickets"



Congratulations to Dan Brevik, ex-KB1RN, on his new exotic callsign KZ1D. Dan should be able to have a good time pretending to be DX with that one. Also congratulations to Vern Valero and Jon Freeman who both recently passed the Novice exam after taking our class. Has anyone else upgraded or changed calls recently? Please let us know!

Auctions / Flea Markets

June 29: N.H. FM Society annual flea market, at the Manchester, N.H. airport, off of Route 101 just east of Route 3 in Manchester, N.H. Open from 9:00 a.m. to whenever. Talk-in on 146.52 simplex. For more information, contact Doug Aiken, K1WPM at 603-622-0831.

July 20-21: The first annual Heavy Hitter Hamfest, to be held at the Topsfield Fairgrounds, Route 1, Topsfield, Mass. There will be commercial exhibitors both days from 9-4, plus a giant outdoor flea market. Also forums and demonstrations on: packet radio, ATV, AMSAT, ARRL. Contests include foxhunts, QSLs, and CW and voice copying. There will also be alternative activities for non-ham members of the family. Tickets are \$4 at the gate or \$3 in advance from "Heavy Hitters Hamfest", P.O. Box 411, Waltham, MA 02254. Include an SASE with ticket requests. License exams will also be given. To take an exam, send a completed Form 610 to Topsfield Exams, c/o P.O. Box 71, Hanover, MA 02339. Camping will be available Saturday night for no charge. Talk-in on 146.04/64 and 147.885/285.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Number 31, dated April 26, 1985:

The 24 MHz or 12 meter band will be released to U.S. Amateurs at 0001 UTC

June 22, 1985. The 10 MHz or 30 meter band becomes permanent at the same time. Both bands are exclusive in the U.S., but Amateurs must avoid interference to stations outside the U.S. in the fixed service. Full power will be permitted in the 12 meter band. At 30 meters, power continues to be restricted to 200 watts PEP. Mode sub-bands will be as shown in December 1984 QST, page 61. The 420 to 430 and 902 to 928 MHz matters proposed in the same docket will be dealt with in a further Report and Order at a later date. Copies of the order will be available from ARRL HQ. Please include an SASE with your request.

Number 27, dated April 12, 1985:

In response to an ARRL petition requesting automatic control for digital communications above 30 MHz, the FCC has released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Docket 85-105, and proposed to allow automatic control for all Amateur communications above 29.5 MHz. Comments on the NPRM are due by June 25, and full details will appear in the ARRL Letter and QST.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Nels Anderson, K1UR, 872-5259

VICE PRESIDENT:

David Curry, K1TK, 237-2450

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, 653-0641

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Allan Bacon, K1BA, 749-4382

TREASURER:

C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, 332-6091

FUND RAISING:

Kevin Kelly, WA1YHV, 242-0341

OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

EDUCATION CHAIRMAN:

STATION MANAGER:

Bob Drapeau, KT1K, 883-1132

REPEATER COMMITTEE:

Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, 653-0641

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society



EDITOR:

NELS ANDERSON, KLUR
92 BISHOP DRIVE
FRAMINGHAM, MASS. 01701
872-5259

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, FCC RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGES, AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR. ITEMS PRINTED IN THE "SPARK GAP" MAY BE REPRINTED BY OTHER AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED THE AUTHOR AND THE "SPARK GAP" ARE GIVEN CREDIT.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS \$8.00. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS SEPTEMBER 1 TO AUGUST 31. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
211 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS. 02181



MINUTES

Meeting of May 2, 1985:

The meeting was opened at 7:49 p.m. by President Nels Anderson, KLUR, with 11 present.

There was no Secretary's report.

The Treasurer's report was read.

C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, requested more volunteers for the Charles River Run.

It was announced that the 24 MHz band will open for Amateur use on June 22.

Some additional general announcements were made.

Bill Hanlon, N1ADY, discussed a by-law change he would like to propose, related to voting procedures.

The meeting was closed at 8:05 p.m.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

This month we have three new members we would like to welcome. From our recently completed Novice Class, please welcome Vern Valero and Jon Freeman. Both Vern and Jon recently passed the Novice exam and are awaiting their callsigns. Also, please welcome Jon Freeman, N1COY, who joined at the May 23 meeting. We hope all of you will enjoy your membership in W.A.R.S.

Elections

Election of officers for the 1985/86 club year was held at the May 23 club meeting. Congratulation to all the people who were elected for the upcoming year:

PRESIDENT:

Tom Kinahan, N1CPE

VICE PRESIDENT:

Rita Baker, N1DDI

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Nels Anderson, KLUR

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Arthur Thompson, KA1ENP

TREASURER:

C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM

FUND RAISING:

Thomas Burton, KX1H

OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Allan Bacon, K1BA

Hamnews

The Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations concerning issuance of commemorative postage stamps, at its May 10 meetings will consider a stamp marking the 25th anniversary of OSCAR 1. OSCAR 1, the first non-Government satellite ever placed in orbit, was launched on December 12, 1961, exactly 60 years after Marconi's first trans-Atlantic experiment and exactly 40 years after the first Amateur trans-Atlantic messages got across.

ARRL Letter, May 9, 1985

EVENTS

by Nels Anderson, KLUR

If you missed this springs Hoss-traders Swapfest at the Deerfield Fairgrounds in New Hampshire, you missed what was probably the biggest flea market ever held in New England.

With perfect weather all day Saturday, and near perfect weather for those who camped out Friday night, the attendance was over 4000, at least that's how many admission tickets were sold before they ran out.

Friday night started out warm and overcast. There was about two minutes of drizzle then it cleared up for the rest of the evening and stayed warm and clear. Not too many sales go on Friday. This is mostly a time for socializing, cookouts, etc. The group I was with enjoyed some video-taped movies under the stars after dark.

Saturday was warm and sunny, with temperatures in the 80's, perfect for walking among the trees of the fairgrounds looking for bargains. There was certainly plenty of stuff to look at. W.A.R.S. had a table which many club members brought stuff for, but we didn't seem to be able to sell much.

By mid afternoon most people were tired out and packing up, marking the end of another Deerfield. Some club members noted in attendance were K1TK, N2AWG, N1CPE, N1AWX, W1LTBY, W1HRV, K1JWE, W1YOJ, W1GCI, K1BA, N1CPF, W1EDF, KLUR.

Public Service

On Sunday, April 29, W.A.R.S. assisted Wellesley College with a 10 kilometer walk-a-thon through the streets and paths of Wellesley. Stations were set up at a number of checkpoints, in addition to the finish line and on a roving van. This gave us complete coverage of the course.

With nice weather up to the end where it started to drizzle there were no problems along the route so we had

an easy day of it.

Participants were Art Thompson, K1ENP, who organized our participation; Rita Baker, N1DDI; Ken McNair, N1DEZ; Dave McClellan, N1DFP; C.J. McDonald, W1BUM; John Taylor, N1CPF; Scott Nacey, W1YOJ; Nels Anderson, KLUR.

On Sunday, May 5, W.A.R.S. was once again on hand at the Charles River Run, a 10 kilometer road race around the Charles River in Brookline. This race is a fund raiser for the Greater Boston Association of Retarded Citizens.

We had two stations set up on the course, plus one in an ambulance, and others with various officials and the public address announcer. Despite some problems unrelated to us the race went fairly smoothly. The sun came out during the race, making it rather warm and humid but apparently there were no medical problems, at least none that we were called on to relay.

Participants were C.J. McDonald, W1BUM, who was the organizer; Art Thompson, K1ENP; Gary Weisse, K1JWE; Tom Kinahan, N1CPE; Nels Anderson, KLUR; Duke Hoang, K1NJ.

Hamnews

The results of the postcard survey of ARRL Membership opinion on SSB sub-band expansion in the U.S. 40 meter band are as follows:

8788 (44.2%) in favor of phone expansion on the U.S. 40 meter band.

10,640 (53.6%) not in favor of phone expansion on the U.S. 40 meter band.

434 (2.27%) no opinion.

The survey postcard was included with the January 1985 QST; a facsimile of the postcard was published on page 69 of that issue. Our special thanks go out to Jim and Andrea Parket, K1VII and K1WLX, who compiled the report. A cross tabulation by age and years licensed is planned for a future issue of QST.

ARRL Letter, May 9, 1985

Hamnews

Wayne Green, W2NSD, has severed his formal relationship with ham radio with his resignation as editor of 73 Magazine.

In an announcement made at his 1985 Dayton Hamvention seminar, Green noted, "I have resigned as the editor of 73, and I did this because I really don't want to continue writing editorials on how bad things are and I have no good news for you. We have some areas of Amateur Radio that are exciting and fun, but all you have to do is look around this room and see how many people came with walkers and in wheelchairs and how few youngsters there are, and you will see what's ailing our hobby. And, if I continue writing editorials, you really would not want to read them."

No successor has been named to Green's editorial post.

Westlink Report, May 17, 1985

The FCC will shortly begin a performance review of the activities of all individuals and groups serving as Volunteer Examination Coordinators under the All Volunteer Testing Program.

The purpose of this review will be to determine if each is truly qualified to continue in VEC capacity. The determination will be based upon such criteria as overall activity, pass rate of applicants, and adherence to all rules governing the VEC program.

Included in this survey will be a determination of the security integrity of each VEC in regard to testing materials and methods of administering exams, and the overall quality of the completed paperwork that is supplied to the FCC's license processing facility at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

In a related move, the Commission is sending a letter of invitation to all currently authorized VECs to attend a meeting in Gettysburg sometime this summer to discuss the pros and cons of the current All Volunteer program with an eye toward overall im-

provement of it. Tnx W9JUV.
Westlink Report, May 3, 1985

CHUCKLE KORN-LR

UNCLE AUGGIE'S WORKSHOP

by Jim Orihood, WD8JCI
from RF Carrier, Dayton, Ohio
via ARNS

As an avid reader of "Uncle Auggie's Workshop," I have used many of your suggestions. With great success, I might add. It is only fitting, I should return the favor with one of my own.

The other day I was contacted on the repeater by KA8KMC. It seems, when he transmits, his signal strength fluctuates. Sounds like dirty connections, says I. Immediately I sought a solution to "The Transient Transmission."

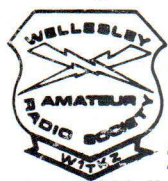
Using a beer can (my favorite chassis) I fitted it with a SO-239 chassis mount coax connector on each end and filled the can with contact cleaner.

The next step was installing it in series with the feed line. In a short period of time, this will clean all your connectors and antenna joints. Since contact cleaner is highly conductive, it has no effect on the signal and can be a permanent part of your feed line. Jim WD8JCI.

Dear Jim: Thanks for the red hot idea. I could hardly wait to finish my 807 in order to try it. So, I whipped one together and it sure works. I also found out that the clean RF coming and going through the system cleans all the contacts and switches in the transceiver which is great. Please pass me another 807.

Then I got to thinking I ought to make one of these for a friend. Plesh pash me another 807. Thish wash such a grate ider I ought to make shum for all my freinsh, pleas pash me anudder 807. Gee shanks Jim for the ider. I shink it sheed revolushinize radio. Plesh pask me anyx...

The Spark Gap



**WELLESLEY
AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY**

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